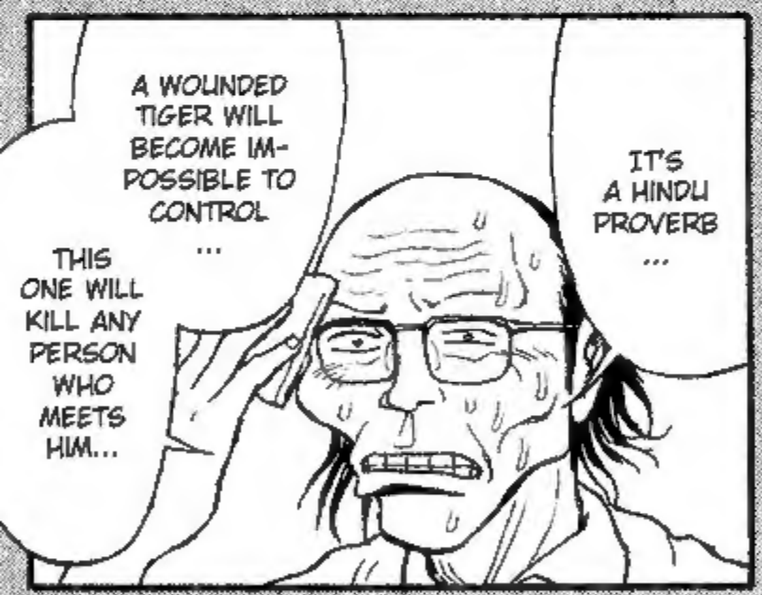
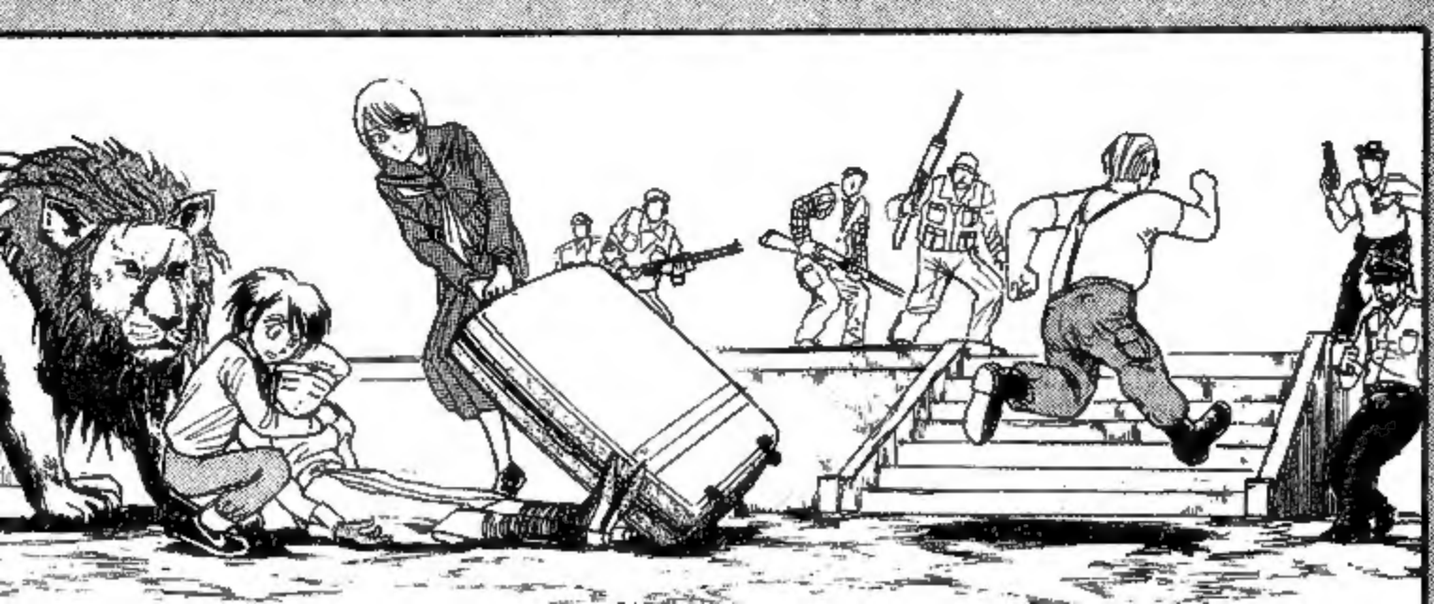
ACT II: CIRCUS * THE TAMER
PART FOUR

"IN THE SHOPPING CENTER"





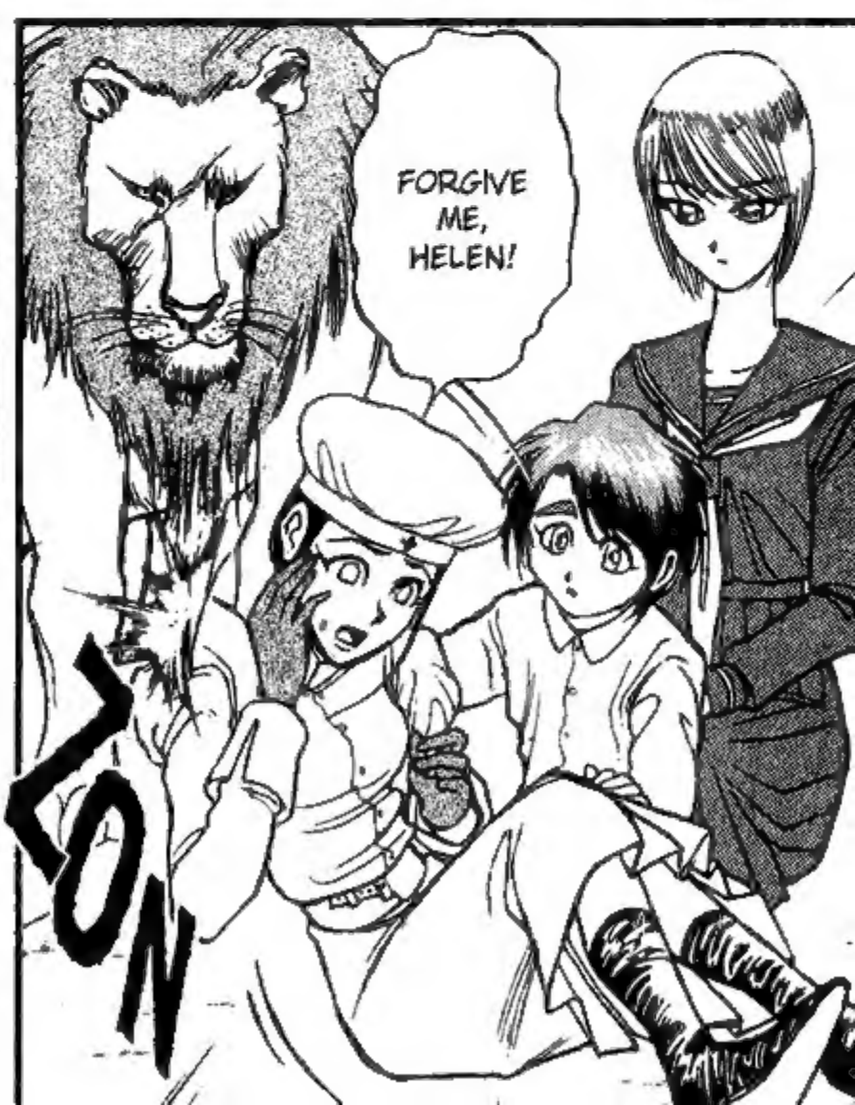
HE THE MOST OBEDIENT ANIMAL WE HAVE!
YOU HAVEN'T MADE DRUM JUMP THROUGH THIS FLAMING RING!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
... TARANDA!

DEAR LITTLE SISTER!
YOU'RE SO USELESS...

DRUM, WHY DON'T YOU WANT TO JUMP?

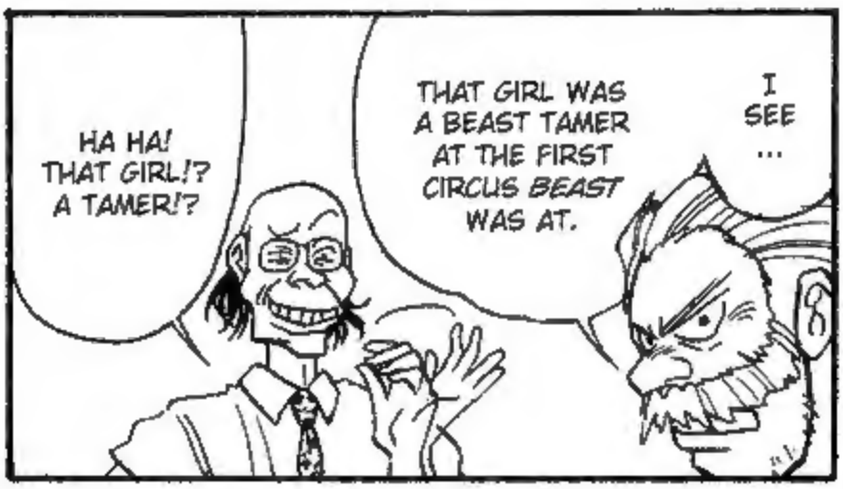
OH...
YOU LOST CONSCIOUSNESS...

DRUM... WHERE'S BEAST?
RRRR


FORGIVE ME, HELEN!
LION

RRRHH
YES, I KNOW... WE NEED TO CATCH UP WITH HIM ...
SAH
DARN IT!
HE GOT AWAY...
AH !
DLON
THANK YOU...
WATCH IT!
DAH!
LISTEN... AS FOR ME, I WAS JUST ASKED TO DRIVE THE TRUCK THAT HELD THE LION...
WHAT THE HECK HAPPENED HERE?
THAT'S THE TRUTH!

WHO IS THAT YOUNG GIRL DRESSED AS A NURSE?
I'D SAY THE LION BELONGS TO HER...
BUT ...
AND YOU, WHO ARE YOU!?

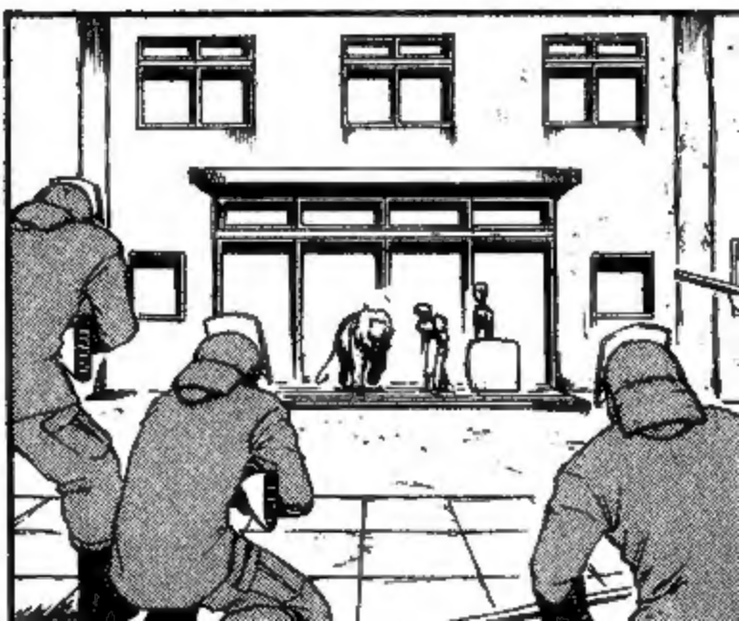

HA HA! THAT GIRL!? A TAMER!?
THAT GIRL WAS A BEAST TAMER AT THE FIRST CIRCUS BEAST WAS AT.
I SEE ...

HE'S PROFESSOR MARUKI, A HIGH-UP ZOOLOGIST. WE ASKED FOR HIM TO COME TO GIVE US HIS PROFESSIONAL ADVICE.

HUH!?
GOOD!
EVERYONE IS READY TO TAKE DOWN THE LION.

DON'T TRY TO TEACH ME! I'M A CIRCUS PERFORMER!
YOU PRETENTIOUS FLEA!
POKE
TO TAME A FEROCIOUS BEAST, YOU'D NEED LOTS OF TRAINING! FIRST, START WITH HORSES, THEN CAMELS, THEN ...
eeep!

... GREW UP IN THAT ENVIRONMENT.
MY MOTHER WAS ALREADY A CAT TAMER IN A CIRCUS. HELEN AND I...



MY MOTHER TAUGHT US HOW TO TAME ANIMALS...
EVERYONE THOUGHT WE WERE VERY TALENTED.
...THAT WE WERE NAMED "THE LISELOTTE SISTERS." IT'S JUST A STAGE NAME.
MY MOTHER RESPECTED "SISTER LISELOTTE", A NURSE IN LEIPZIG WHO BECAME A TAMER, SO MUCH...
A LITTLE WHILE AFTER OUR DEBUT ...
OH, REALLY ?
THEN, WE LANDED A CONTRACT WITH A HUGE AMERICAN CIRCUS, WITH THREE STAGES!
IN SPITE OF ALL THAT, WE FOUND HIM QUITE PEACEFUL ...
MOST PEOPLE SAID THAT BEAST HAD SEVERELY INJURED HIS OLD KEEPERS ...
... THE CIRCUS ...
... BOUGHT BEAST FROM A FOREIGN COUNTRY ...
BUT ONE DAY, DURING THE SHOW ...
... EVERYTHING FELL APART ...

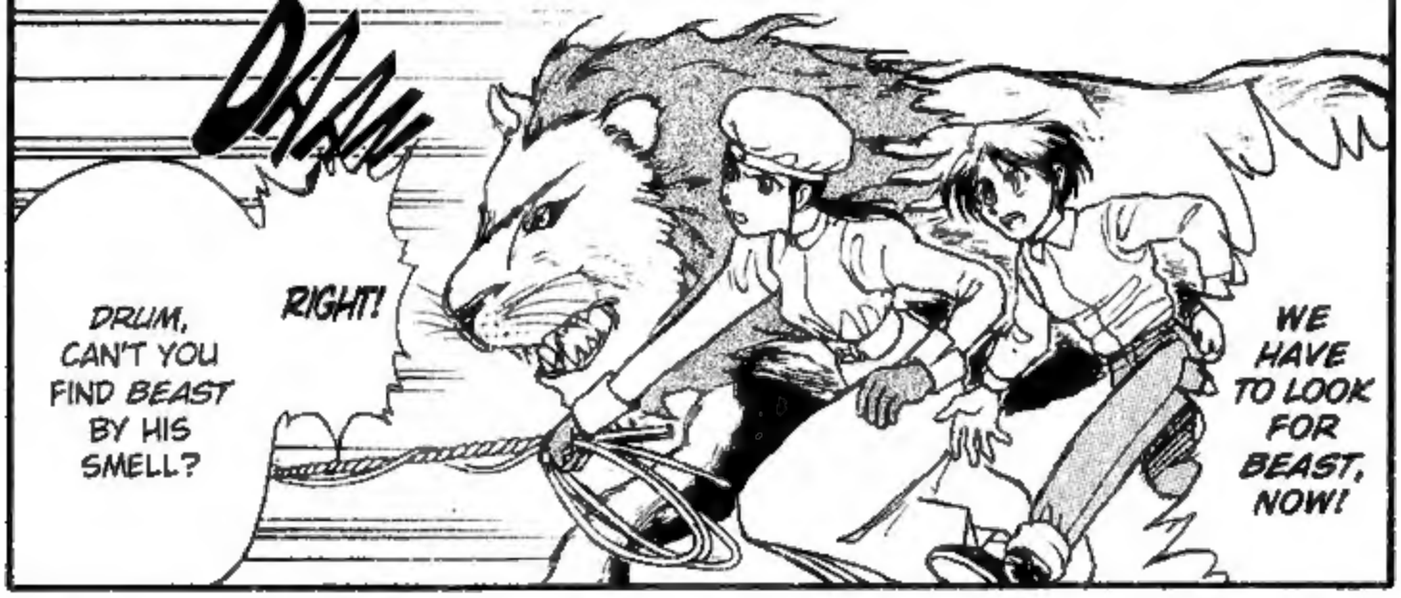
DRUM TRIED TO STOP HIM, BUT WAS TOO LATE ...

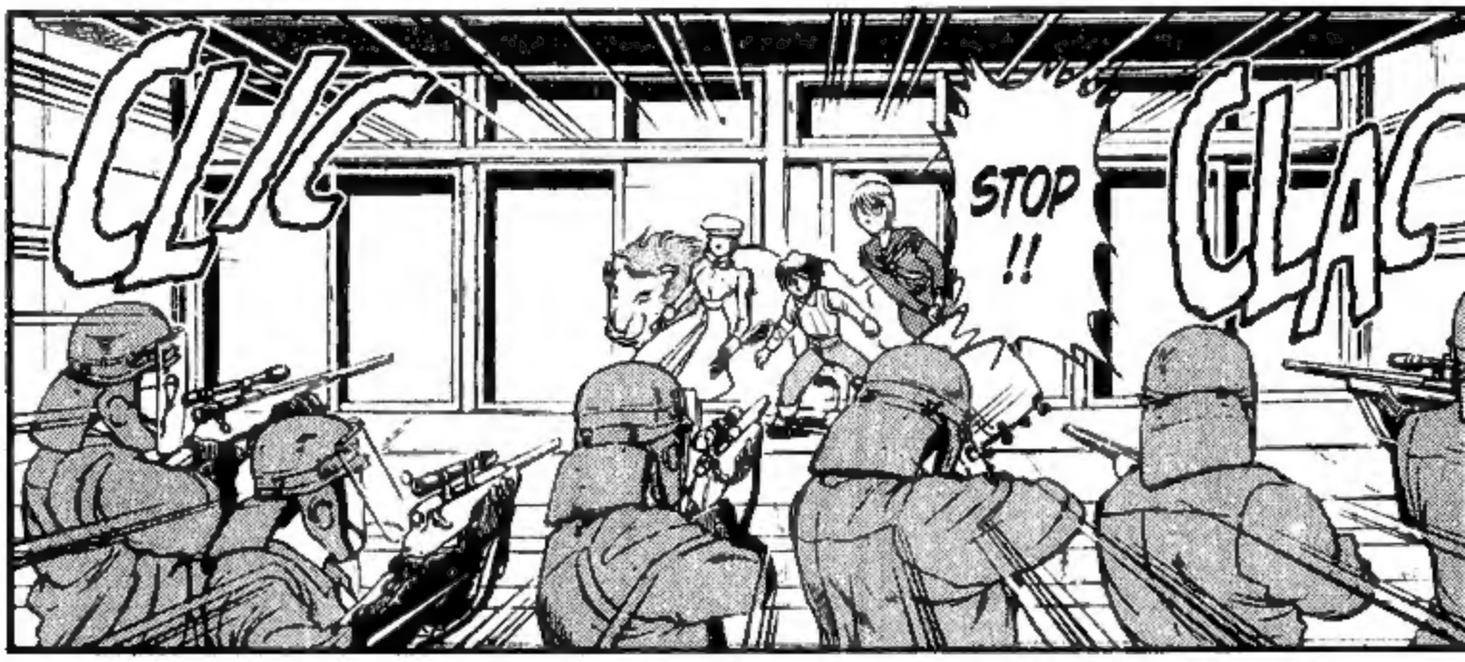
HE WAITED FOR HER TO TURN HER BACK ...
YES...
BEAST KILLED YOUR SISTER ...

BEAST WAS TAKEN DOWN BY TRANQUILIZERS... AFTER THAT, HE WAS CONFINED BY CHAINS...

TAN

I.U.C.N.
RED DATA BOOK
TIGER
CITES
THEY REALLY WANTED TO DO THAT...
BUT... ROYAL TIGERS ARE AN ENDANGERED SPECIES ...
THEY'RE PROTECTED, AND ONE CAN'T JUST DECIDE TO KILL ONE WITHOUT PERMISSION...
WHY DIDN'T THE MANAGERS OF THE CIRCUS DECIDE TO PUT HIM TO SLEEP?
THE FACT THAT IT'S TERRIFYING ENTERTAINS PEOPLE...
IN THE WORLD OF THE CIRCUS, YOU NEED TO ATTRACT ATTENTION.
WHY DID THEY WANT TO BUY ANOTHER DANGEROUS TIGER!?
SOME TIME LATER, BEAST WAS SOLD TO THE BALISHAM CIRCUS...
SO THAT'S WHY YOU WEREN'T SCARED WHEN YOU SAW DRUM!
MY NAME IS SHIROGANE. I USED TO BE A CONTORTIONIST AND AN ACROBAT.
AH... I UNDERSTAND ...
I KNOW THIS... BECAUSE I'VE PLAYED A ROLE IN THE CIRCUS BEFORE.
UNFORTUNATELY, I WASN'T FAST ENOUGH TO CAPTURE HIM...
YOUR MARIONETTE IS IMPRESSIVE... IT'S SO EASILY MOBILE, YOU MANAGED TO HOLD BACK BEAST...


DRUM, CAN'T YOU FIND BEAST BY HIS SMELL?
RIGHT!
WE HAVE TO LOOK FOR BEAST, NOW!


CLIC
STOP !!
CLAC

MR. OFFI-CER, SIR!
BUT ... WE DON'T HAVE THE TIME!

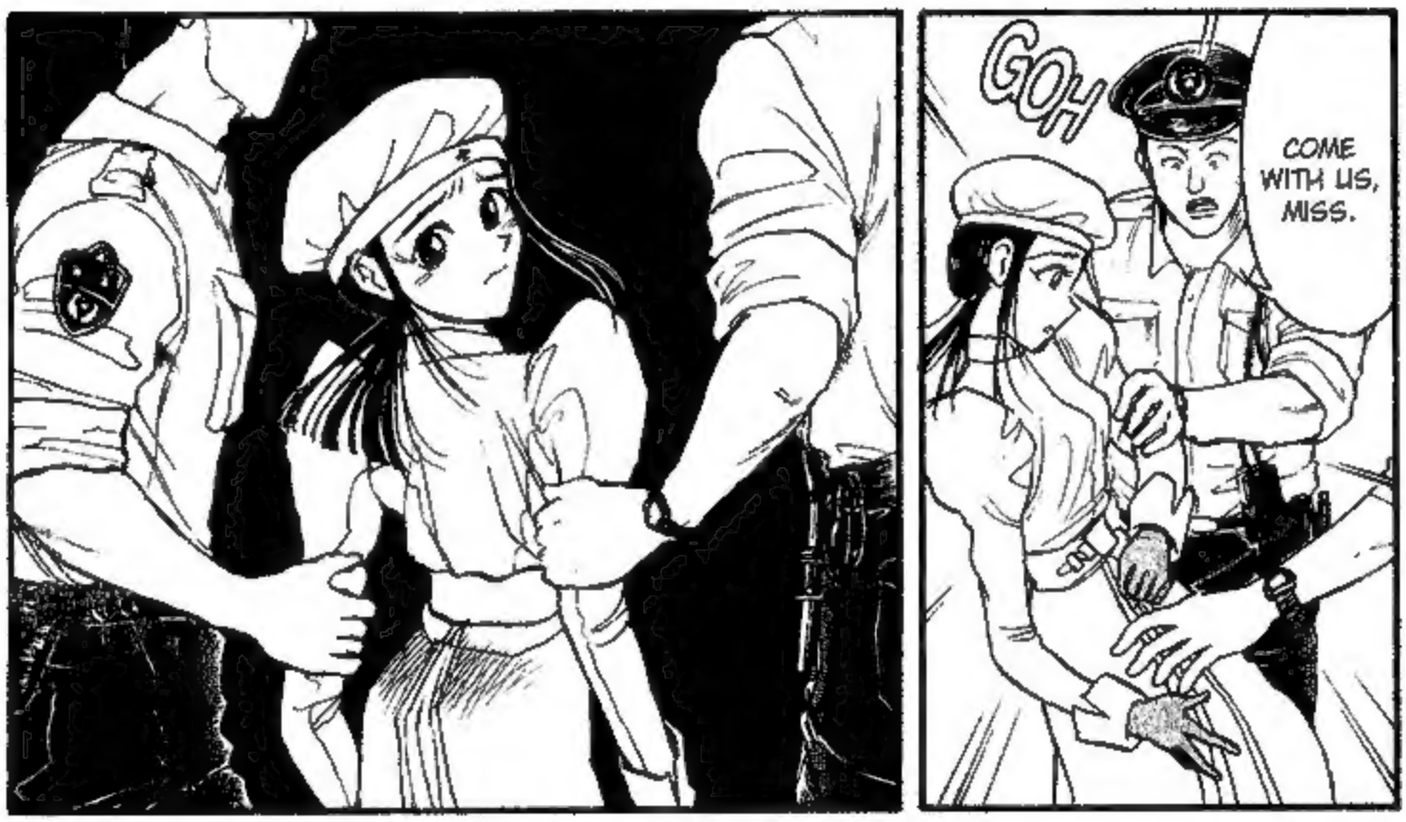
WE'LL HAVE TO PUT YOU UNDER A CLOSE WATCH! STATE YOUR BUSINESS!
WHERE ARE YOU TAKING THAT LION!? ... ANSWER US!!

LISTEN! ...I'D SAY IT'S BETTER TO WORK WITH THE POLICE!

LITTLE BOY, PEOPLE CAN'T JUST WALK FREELY IN THE STREETS WITH SUCH A BEAST!
...WITH THE HELP OF HER LION!
MISS LISELOTTE CAME OVER HERE TO KILL BEAST...

NO! WE NEED TO ACT QUICKLY!
FIRST OFF, WE NEED TO CHECK OUT YOUR IDENTITY. THEN, WE'RE GETTING THE CHIEF'S PERMISSION TO...
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH ME?
SHE'S GOT THAT RIGHT! WE'RE NOT DONE WITH THAT AWFUL TIGER JUST YET!
AND DRUM... WHAT WILL YOU DO TO HIM?
WHY NOT JUST OVER-LOOK THE FORMALITIES FOR NOW? ABOVE ALL, WE NEED TO GATHER SOME INFO. SO, LISTEN TO THE LADY BEFORE YOU JUDGE HER.
NONE OF THIS IS REALLY LEGAL... THERE ARE RULES TO FOLLOW ...
THERE'S A DEADLY NEEDLE IN DRUM'S TAIL! WITH IT, HE CAN FIGHT BEAST!
NO !!
... IS SOLID INFORMATION ON BEAST ...
WE'LL NEED TO PUT A MUZZLE ON YOUR LION BEFORE WE TAKE HIM WITH US. WHAT WE NEED...

THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! ... LOOK AT HIM! HE'S TOO OLD TO MESS WITH THAT MONSTROUS TIGER! HE WON'T DO ANYTHING FOR US!
HA HA! A NEEDLE!? IN A LION'S TAIL!?

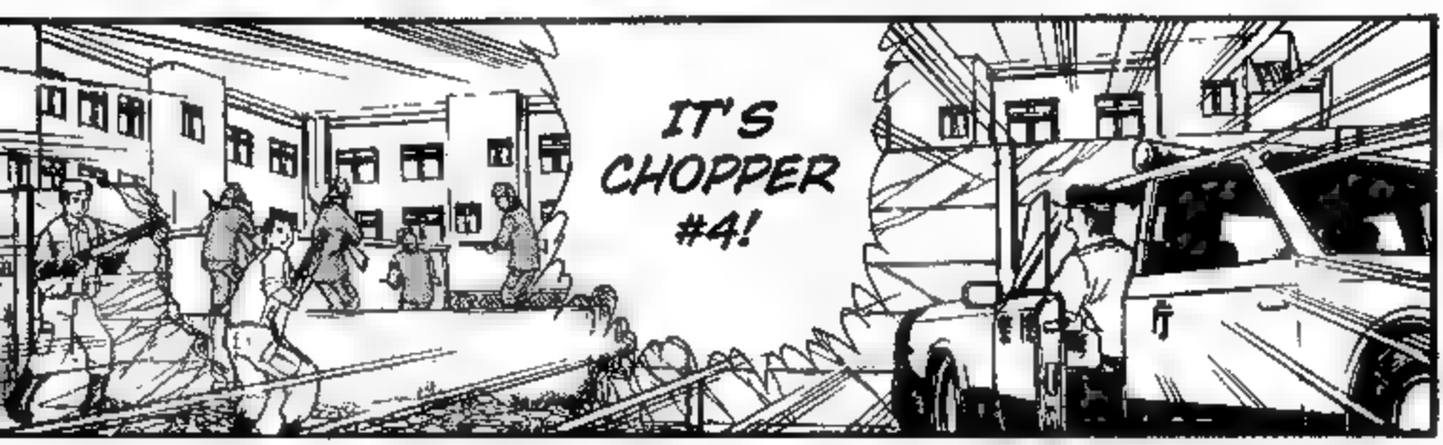

GOH
COME WITH US, MISS.

I DON'T THINK SHE COULD DO ANYTHING ...
THIS ISN'T FAIR... BUT WE HAVE TO LET THE POLICE DO THEIR JOB ...

TARANDA AND HER LION ARE THE ONLY ONES WHO CAN TANGLE WITH BEAST; OTHER PEOPLE COULDN'T DEFEAT THAT TIGER...
I'M SURE OF IT!

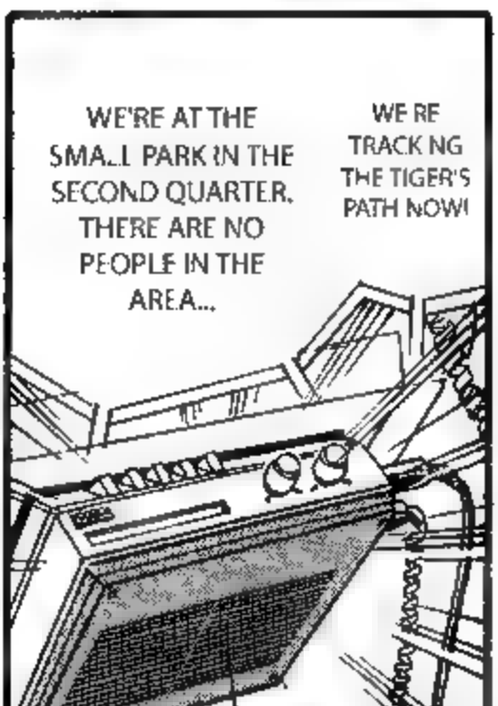
HMM...

NOBODY BUT HER ...
...CAN DO ANY-THING ABOUT THIS!


IT'S CHOPPER #4!

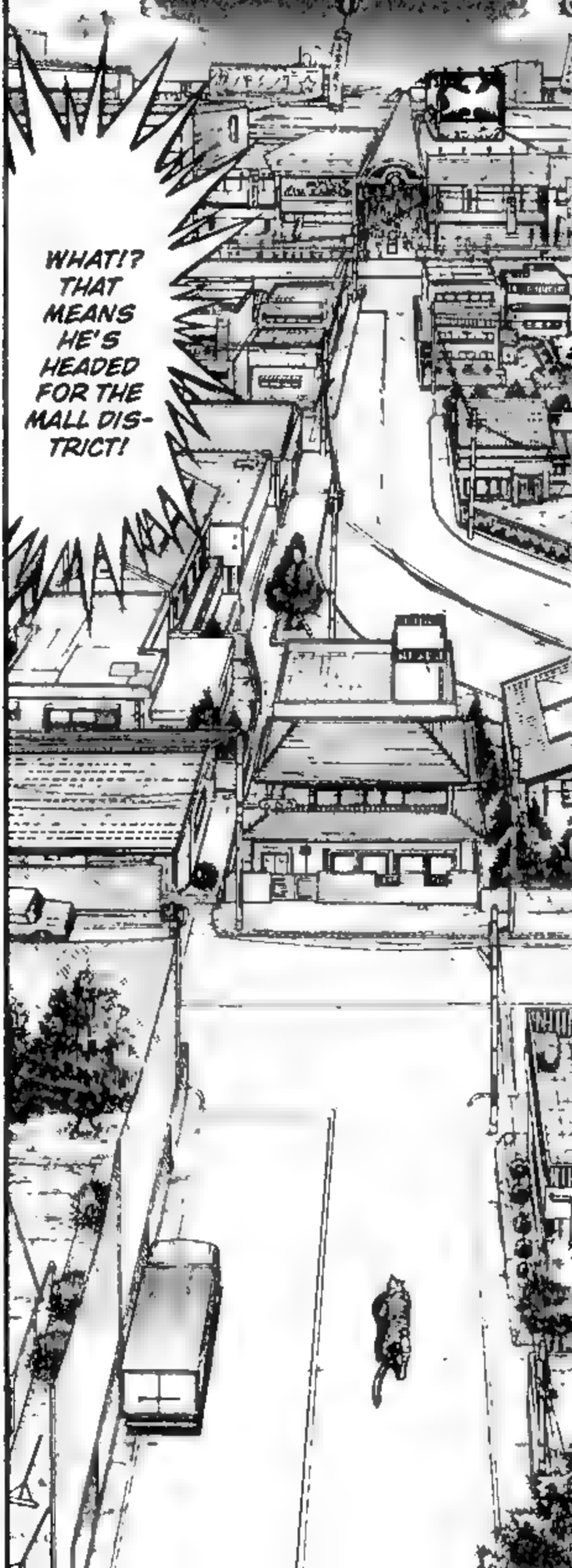
AND HE'S HEADING INTO A NEIGHBORING SECTOR, AND WE HAVEN'T EVACUATED THE PEOPLE THERE.
IT'S NOT GOING TO BE EASY... HE'S MOVING QUICKLY...
DA DA DA DA DA

SURROUND THAT AREA!!


WE'RE AT THE SMALL PARK IN THE SECOND QUARTER. THERE ARE NO PEOPLE IN THE AREA...
WE'RE TRACKING THE TIGER'S PATH NOW!

IF WE LET THE TIGER GET OVER THERE, WE'LL RISK HAVING NUMEROUS CASUALTIES!!
YES! WE'VE GOT TO GET THE PEOPLE OUT!

NOOOO,
EH!


WHAT!? THAT MEANS HE'S HEADED FOR THE MALL DISTRICT!

I ONLY CAME HERE FOR THAT!
I HAVE TO GO THERE!
I'VE GOT TO KILL THAT TIGER!
STAY WITH US!!
DAN DAN DAN
I DIDN'T COME HERE JUST FOR FUN!
BELIEVE ME! NO ONE BUT US CAN KILL THE BEAST!
LET ME GO! YOU CAN'T DO ANYTHING AGAINST BEAST!!
PLEASE MISS!
CALM DOWN!
EVERY-THING'S FINE!
DON'T WORRY, DRUM!
AAH!
GROOOAR
GLOUP

LET ME GO! I HAVE TO FIGHT BEAST!
GRR OO
SHIRO-GANE .
WE HAVE TO HELP TARANDA ...
AS YOU WISH, YOUNG MASTER ...
CLC
SBL

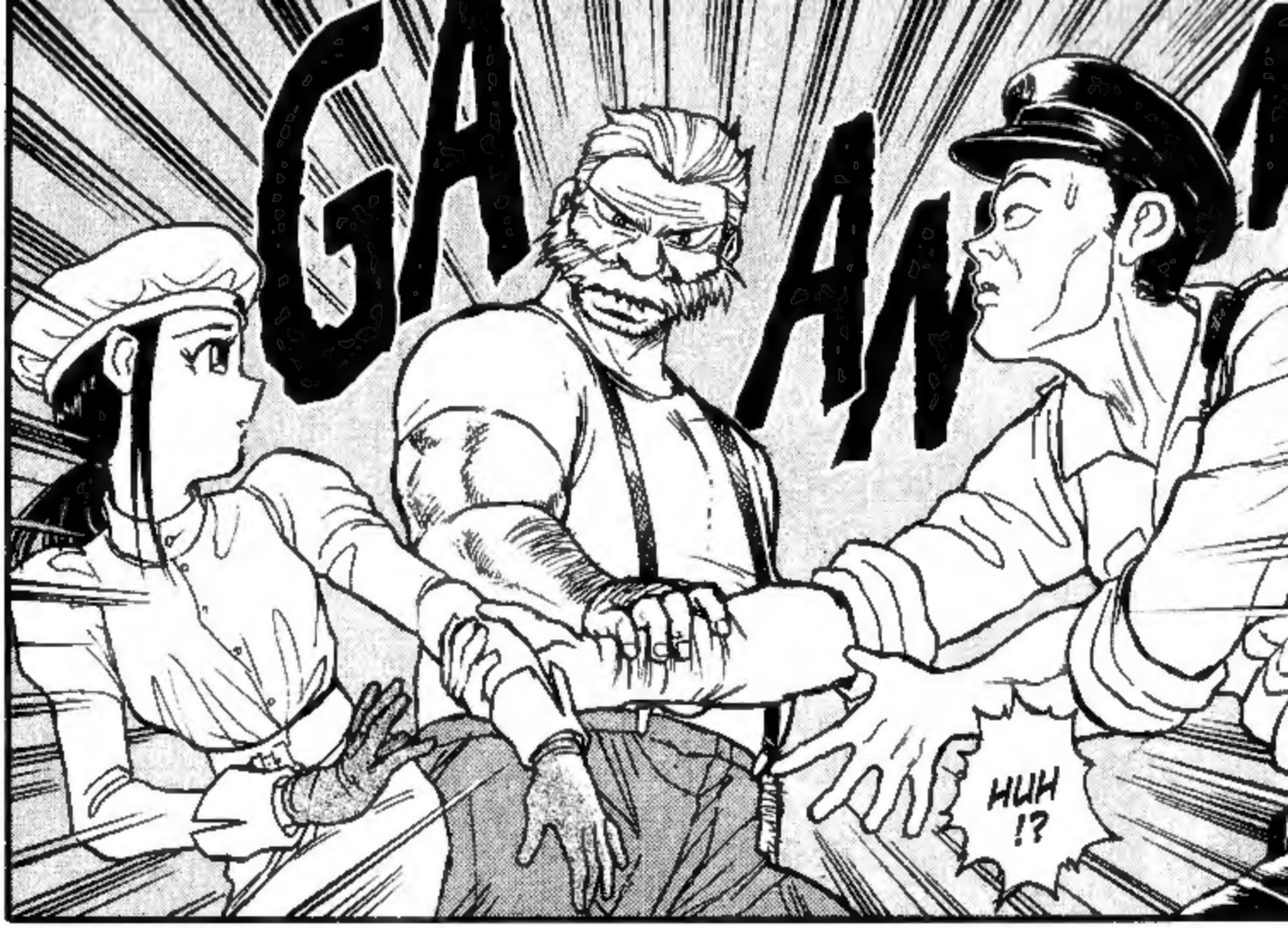
LOOK OUT!
EEH!? WHAT THE HECK IS THAT!?

IT'S YOUR MOVE, TARANDA! YOU CAN GO NOW!

AH!
OW!
ZOOM

STAY HERE !!
GO!

... THANK YOU ...


GA
AN
HUH !?

OBVIOUSLY, SHE KNOWS MORE ABOUT THE TIGER THAN ALL OF US COMBINED!
LET HER GO!

ARGH !
GOH
GOH

AND HERE WE GO! I'M GOING STRAIGHT BACK INTO TROUBLE!

DRUM !!
DAW
THANKS ...

I'D RATHER BE THAT GIRL'S ESCORT ...
SHE LOOKS LIKE SHE NEEDS SOMEONE TO GUIDE HER...
DON'T THANK ME!!
THANKS, MR. NAKAMACHI!
OUAAHH
GO, YOUNG MASTER! I'M BUSY HOLDING THEM BACK!
GOT IT!
GO JOIN HER!
I THINK YOU'RE CAPABLE OF HELPING HER. SHE MIGHT BE ABLE TO SHRUG OFF WHAT'S HOLDING HER DOWN.
HUH?
TAM
MISS LISELOTTE HASN'T DISCOVERED HER "TRUE ABILITIES" YET...

WE'LL RIDE ON DRUM'S BACK.
UH... OKAY ...
SIT, DRUM!

WE'LL DEFINITELY FIND A WAY...
IT'LL WORK OUT...
THIS WON'T BE EASY, IF THE MALL IS FULL OF PEOPLE...
...